

LISTING OF CLAIMS

- 1 (Withdrawn). A CMOS image sensor comprising:
- a semiconductor substrate having an impurity region and a gate electrode;
 - a first spacer formed on a first sidewall of the gate electrode, wherein the first spacer is overlapped with a portion of the impurity region;
 - a second spacer formed on a sidewall of the first spacer; and
 - a third spacer formed on a second sidewall of the gate electrode.
- 2 (Withdrawn). The CMOS image sensor as recited in claim 1, wherein the first spacer, the second spacer and the third spacer are formed with oxide layers.
- 3 (Withdrawn). The CMOS image sensor as recited in claim 2, wherein the first spacer, the second spacer and the third spacer are formed by carrying out a thermal oxidation process.
- 4 (Withdrawn). The CMOS image sensor as recited in claim 1, wherein the impurity region is an N-type.
- 5 (Withdrawn). The CMOS image sensor as recited in claim 4, further comprising:
- a P-type impurity region formed on the impurity region to provide a photodiode; and
 - a floating diffusion region spaced away from the impurity region by a predetermined distance.

6 (Original). A method for fabricating a CMOS image sensor, comprising:

- a) providing a semiconductor structure, wherein the semiconductor structure includes an impurity region and a gate electrode;
- b) forming a first spacer on a first sidewall of the gate electrode, wherein the first spacer is overlapped with a portion of the impurity region; and
- c) forming a second spacer on a sidewall of the first spacer and a third spacer on a second sidewall of the gate electrode.

7 (Original). The method as recited in claim 6, comprising:

- b1) forming a first oxide layer on the semiconductor structure; and
- b2) carrying out an etching process to form the first spacer.

8 (Original). The method as recited in claim 7, comprising forming the first oxide layer by carrying out a thermal oxidation process.

9 (Original) . The method as recited in claim 7, additionally comprising forming a fourth spacer on the other sidewall of the gate electrode.

10 (Original). The method as recited in claim 9, comprising:

- c1) forming a photoresist pattern covering the impurity region and the first spacer;
- c2) carrying out an etching process to remove the fourth spacer;
- c3) removing the photoresist pattern;
- c4) forming a second oxide layer on a resulting substrate; and
- c5) carrying out an etching process to form the second spacer and the third spacer.

11 (Original). The method as recited in claim 10, comprising forming the second oxide layer by carrying out a thermal oxidation process.

12 (Original). The method as recited in claim 6, wherein the impurity region is an N-type.

13 (Original). The method as recited in claim 12, additionally comprising:

d) carrying an ion implantation to form a P-type impurity region on the impurity region to thereby obtain a photodiode; and

e) forming a floating diffusion region spaced away from the impurity region by a predetermined distance.

14 (Withdrawn). A method for fabricating a CMOS image sensor, comprising:

a) providing a semiconductor structure, wherein the semiconductor structure includes an impurity region and a gate electrode formed on a semiconductor substrate;

b) forming a first nitride layer on the semiconductor structure;

c) exposing the gate electrode and a portion of the impurity region;

d) forming a first spacer on a first sidewall of the gate electrode; and

e) forming a second spacer on a sidewall of the first spacer and a third spacer on a second sidewall of the gate electrode.

15 (Withdrawn). The method as recited in claim 14, comprising:

- c1) depositing a first oxide layer on the semiconductor structure by carrying out a chemical vapor deposition (CVD);
- c2) forming a photoresist pattern on the first oxide layer, wherein the photoresist covers an exposed portion of the impurity region and the gate electrode;
- c3) patterning the first oxide layer and the nitride layer by using the photoresist pattern as a mask;
- c4) removing the photoresist pattern; and
- c5) carrying out an etching process to form the first spacer.

16 (Withdrawn). The method as recited in claim 14, comprising:

- e1) forming a second oxide layer on a resulting structure; and
- e2) carrying out an etching process to form the second spacer and the third spacer.

17 (Withdrawn). The method as recited in claim 14, wherein the impurity region is an N-type.

18 (Withdrawn). The method as recited in claim 17, additionally comprising:

- f) carrying an ion implantation to form a P-type impurity region on the impurity region to thereby obtain a photodiode; and
- g) forming a floating diffusion region spaced away from the impurity region by a length of the gate electrode.